

Message Text

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S E C R E T PARIS 14433

NODIS CHEROKEE

FOR THE SECRETARY FROM THE AMBASSADOR

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1
TAGS: PFOR, FR, US, OVIP (GISCARD D'ESTAING, VALERY)
SUBJECT: PRESIDENT GISCARD'S TRIP TO NEW YORK

1. FOREIGN MINISTER GUIRINGAUD CALLED ME IN ON SHORT NOTICE AND ASKED THAT I CONVEY A PERSONAL MESSAGE FROM TO YOU AND ZBIG. HE HAS BEEN CONCERNED ABOUT THE LACK OF A MEETING BETWEEN OUR TWO PRESIDENTS DURING GISCARD'S VISIT TO THE UN SPECIAL SESSION. WHEN HE NOTED IN ZBIG'S CONVERSATION WITH DE LABOULAYE YESTERDAY THAT THERE WAS A SIMILAR CONCERN ON OUR SIDE AND THAT SEVERAL SUGGESTIONS HAD BEEN MADE HE IMMEDIATELY TOOK THE MATTER UP WITH GISCARD. (THEY WILL ALSO BE GETTING A MESSAGE BACK THROUGH DE LABOULAYE BUT THEY WERE AFRAID THAT HIS TRAVEL PLANS MIGHT NOT ALLOW HIM TO MAKE THE APPROACH PERSONALLY TO ZBIG AND HENCE THIS PERSONAL MESSAGE TO YOU).

2. GUIRINGAUD FEELS THAT THERE ARE A NUMBER OF SUBJECTS OF PRESSING CONCERN IN EAST-WEST RELATIONS, MIDDLE EAST AND AFRICA, TO SAY NOTHING OF THE DESIRABILITY OF COMPARING NOTES PRIOR TO THE JULY

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SUMMIT, WHICH WOULD MAKE SUCH A MEETING PARTICULARLY USEFUL AT THIS JUNCTURE. HE ALSO IS CONCERNED, THAT NO MATTER HOW FORTHRIGHTLY BOTH GOVERNMENTS TRY TO EXPLAIN THE SITUATION, THERE WILL BE CRITICISM IF THE PRESIDENTS DID NOT MEET. APPARENTLY ZBIG SUGGESTED THE POSSIBILITY OF A MEETING EITHER IN CHICAGO OR ATLANTA. IN THEIR DISCUSSION THIS MORNING CHICAGO

WAS APPARENTLY RULED OUT AND ALTHOUGH NO REASON WAS GIVEN I ASSUME THIS COULD HAVE SOMETHING TO DO WITH THE BAD VIBES DUE TO THE FACT THAT POMPIDOU HAD TROUBLE IN CHICAGO. ON THE OTHER HAND ATLANTA HAS A GREAT APPEAL TO THE PRESIDENT HERE WHO WOULD VERY MUCH LIKE TO TALK TO THE PRESIDENT ON HIS HOME GROUND AND PAY HOMAGE TO THIS STATE WHERE THE PRESIDENT WAS FORMERLY GOVERNOR.

3. THE PRESIDENT IS WILLING TO REMAIN AS LATE AS FRIDAY EVENING AND RETURN TO PARIS OVERNIGHT BUT HE MUST BE IN PARIS IN TIME FOR AN ENGAGEMENT ON SATURDAY.

4. GUIRINGAUD ALSO MENTIONED THAT WE HAD TO GIVE SOME ATTENTION TO THE CHARACTER OF THE MEETING. I AM SURE HE IS NOT SUGGESTING GREAT FORMALITIES BUT RATHER THAT IT WOULD LOOK A BIT STRANGE TO FLY ALL THE WAY TO ATLANTA FOR A VERY SHORT CONVERSATION AND INDEED WITH THE PROBLEMS THEY SHOULD DISCUSS SOMETHING MORE THAN A SHORT CONVERSATION IS PROBABLY CALLED FOR.

5. I PASS THIS MESSAGE ON QUICKLY AND HOPING THAT IT CROSSES NO LINES AS FAR AS THE CONVERSATION BETWEEN ZBIG AND DE LABOULAYE BUT I BELIEVE THAT IT ACCURATELY REFLECTS THE GENUINE DESIRE OF BOTH
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PRESIDENT GISCARD AND THE FOREIGN MINISTER TO HAVE SUCH CONTACT AT THE HIGHEST LEVEL DURING THIS DIFFICULT PERIOD.
HARTMAN

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